

Middle Tennessee Winter Bass Fishing Trail

Rules and Regulations

Below are the official rules and regulations for the Middle Tennessee Winter Bass Fishing Trail Series. By paying a membership and/or entry fee and participating, it is assumed that competitor(s) have read and agreed to all rules and regulations. Furthermore, the competitor(s) agrees that Ketch'Um Outdoors and event sponsors are not liable for any accident or injury that occurs during events. A liability waiver must be signed and on file in order to participate. No exceptions.

1. All tournaments will take place from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. CST.
2. Competitors must be inside the no wake zone no later than 3 p.m. Scales will close at 3:45 p.m.
3. A ½ pound deduction per minute will be given to all competitors that are not in the no wake zone by 3 p.m.
4. Competitors may trailer during weigh-in.
5. There will be a five (5) fish limit for all tournaments per Tennessee laws.
6. Competitors weighing a dead fish will receive a ½ pound deduction from their total weight.
7. A dead fish CANNOT and WILL NOT be accepted as big fish.
8. If a bag consists of multiple dead fish, the biggest fish (alive or dead) will be deducted from the total weight.
9. Length of fish must meet state and lake regulations. Courtesy length checks will be available using the golden ruler.
10. Short fish WILL NOT be weighed. Should a competitor attempt to weigh a short fish, the heaviest fish will be deducted from the total weight.
11. Should there be a tie between competitors' total weight, the team with the heavier "big fish" will be the tie breaker. If there is a tie between competitors for big fish, the payment will be split in half.
12. Teams/individuals, substitutes included, must pay the membership fee to participate.
13. Each individual must fish three (3) events to qualify for the fish-off.
14. For regular trail events, teams are allowed a substitute partner.
15. Prepayment of entry fees and/or membership fees will be accepted up to three (3) business days prior to the tournament date. If a team prepays and is unable to attend, a 24 hour notice must be given to the director in order to receive a refund. Less than 24 hours notice will result in the entire entry fee going towards the fish-off.
16. Substitutes will not be allowed for the fish-off. No exceptions.
17. Any B.A.S.S. affiliated high school individuals and/or teams are not required to pay membership fees. Membership cards must be presented to the trail director prior to each event.
18. All minors (under age 18) must be accompanied by an adult to participate. Liability waivers must be signed by a parent or legal guardian and on file before participating.

Minors accompanied by someone other than a parent or legal guardian must sign the waiver 24 hours prior to the event.

19. All tournament competitors must wear their life jacket any time the outboard motor is running and in gear.
20. Boat numbers will be given out in the order that competitors register. Pre-registration will open for all tournaments beginning **November 1, 2024**.
21. If a competitor chooses to pay for all events before the first event, their boat number will remain the same for the entire trail.
22. In the case of a disagreement with a decision made by the tournament director, a written letter must be submitted to the assistant tournament director before the conclusion of weigh-in.
23. All decisions made by the tournament director and assistant tournament director are final.

Points and Standings

All teams will be awarded points at every event. The points breakdown is as follows:

First place: 100 points

Second place: 99 points

Third place: 98 points, etc.

Under the circumstance that competitor(s) do not weigh fish, the next consecutive number will be awarded to them and competitor(s) thereafter. **Example:** An event draws 30 boats. 19th place is the last boat with weighable fish and is awarded 82 points. 20th-30th place will be awarded 81 points each.

Should a points tie occur at the conclusion of the fish-off, the competitor(s) with the bigger bag of the season will be awarded points champion.

Payout

Regular season event payouts will be determined by the number of participating boats **minus the tournament director**. However, the tournament director will still be responsible for big fish and fish-off payments at each event. The fish-off will pay three (3) places, one (1) big fish, big fish of the trail, and points champion(s) of the trail. Below is the payout breakdown.

Membership fee: \$25 per person

Entry fee: \$150 per tournament

- \$100 of paid entry fees towards tournament payout
- \$20 towards big fish
- \$30 towards fish-off

Ten (10) boats

1st: \$600

2nd: \$300

Big fish: \$200

Fish-off: \$300

Twenty (20) boats

1st: \$950

2nd: \$575

3rd: \$375

Big fish: \$400

Fish-off: \$600

Thirty (30) boats

1st: \$1275

2nd: \$825

3rd: \$525

4th: \$275

Big fish 1: \$360

Big fish 2: \$240

Fish-off: \$900

Forty (40) boats

1st: \$1580

2nd: \$1055

3rd: \$730

4th: \$380

5th: \$145

Big fish 1: \$480

Big fish 2: \$320

Fish-off: \$1200

Fifty (50) boats

1st: \$1850

2nd: \$1285

3rd: \$885

4th: \$485
5th: \$295
6th: \$100
Big fish 1: \$600
Big fish 2: \$400
Fish-off: \$1500

Fish-off payout is based on the number of paid membership fees throughout the season, paid entry fees for the two day event, and trail sponsorship.